POWERFUL LIFE PRINCIPLES

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"Ye shall walk after the Lord your God,, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey His voice, and ye shall serve him and cleve unto him." Deut. 13:4.

This great command was repeatedly issued to those who are the family of God. It was the secret of great accomplishments as God led His people out of Egypt toward their promised land. Whenever they transgressed God's commands and turned to idols, judgment followed, and failure resulted. Obedience to the commands of God is the secret of victory to any believer. I have tried to live by "Only one life, twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last. Today I want to share the Bible Principles that have dominated my 83 years of life and service. These Powerful Life Principles are the secret of anyone's life well spent. (1). BE ALERT: Three areas deserve your attention. Satan, is always at work to defeat the child of God. "Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:" . I Peter 5:8. Never underestimate the power of the Satan who seeks to involve your life in earthly, destructive, and valueless actions. He is very real and dedicated to ruin you. **Temptation** is the tool he uses to distract the Child of God from pleasing the Father. "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The Spirit is ready, but the flesh is weak. " Mark 14:38. This generation has more pressure toward doing evil than any in the past. Do not let your guard down, but be aware of his devices so you will not be led away from God's path of obedience. Failure to stand above it will lead to Apathy. "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works

perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent." Rev. 3:&2a. Our end time churches and members are warned not to be luke warm in the last days, but rather stand fast in the will of God. Victory in all these takes an alert heart and mind. (2). BE FIRM: Be sure that you stay firm In the Faith. "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Never allow anyone or anything to cause you to question your faith. Remain firm in you trust in the finished work of Christ in your behalf. Many religious "kooks" are around to try to persuade you to their confused way of belief. Maintain a child like faith in the promises of God. God's promises for you will never fail, He has promised. Do not sin by mistrusting Him. Further stay firm In Standards: "Hate the evil and love the good." The children of God must be faithful to all His warnings and walk a life on the victory side. Radio, TV and magazines all feature evil and you should avert you eyes and turn evil away. Peer pressure should not drag you into apparel and entertainment's that are sinful and degrading. Be proud that you live by God's proven standards, and not the lustful fleshly compromises of your sinner friends. You cannot ever please God if you compromise to be like the world. Be firm In **Purpose:** "The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way." Psa. 37:23. Our main purpose in life is to glorify God and walk in His direction day by day. There is never an acceptable reason to turn back from your promise to please your Father. He has no joy in those who look back or give up in the challenges we face. Again the greatest purpose in life is to glorify God and accomplish His will for us. (3). Be MATURE: Again three related areas come to mind. Love: "Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God: and every on that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love." I John

4:7&8. One of the marks of a great Christian is in the love you show others. Childish bickering and jealousy are marks of a little grown believer. Mature Christians can look beyond the faults and failures of others and love them for who they are. Two many churches are split by clildish fussing at unliked others. Be mature and rise above slights. Insight: "Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." Col. 3:2. A Godly person needs to look beyond and meditate on things of the future. Some cannot forget the failures of the past, and others just seem to let things fall where they may without planning. You will not become a great Christian accidentally, but with Godly leading have an insight into the future. Look for the things within you that will keep you from fulfilling your dream. Work to understand every situation and don't jump to conclusions. Keep an open heart to the leading of God in your life. Relationships: "Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently." I Pet. 1:22. Relationship to others is a visual proof of your relationship to God. Little children have to learn by trial and effort how to respond to other kids. We adults are much the same. Some people seem not to get along with anyone and lead a lonely miserable life. Moral Purity: "Keep thyself pure." I Tim. 5:22. This is a huge challenge in a world that parades evil and immorality in every form of media. You young ones must praxes vigilance to keep from destroying your virginity. Absolutely no sex before or outside of your marriage is crucial to every individual. Beware of bad TV and evil music that reveals sex looseness and immorality as normal. If you look and listen you will fall without a doubt. Fruit of the Spirit: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, faith. Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." The choice is your. Existing on a diet of all questionable things will ruin

your maturity. Wisely dine daily in the Word of God and develop a maturity of actions, as you become known as a Godly man or woman. With so many lose and worldly believers in view, we need the real mature believers to witness the way with faithful maturity. Come on dear friend and grow up in the Lord. Lastly, (4). BE STRONG: " This always begins with Yielding in a definite act of faith your whole body and life to the Lord. Mine came as a 15 year old lad at a youth campfire. I can still feel every joyful moment of that decision. I wanted to be strong in the power and might of the God I would serve. There are many weakings in Christian ranks today. Some I am sorry to say are pastors who steer clear of certain unpopular subjects. Some are believers who hesitate not to jump on the men of God who preach the whole truth. Both are wrong since the Bible commands, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." Eph. 6:10. A truly yielded person will preach and desire to hear all the counsel of the Lord. A yielded person will not look for an excuse to skip and service in their church. A yielded person will correct wrong habits, change their way of living and be willing to go all out in the service of their Lord. For further strength one must Submit: "I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Rom 12:1. A full surrender is the kind of submitting that really pleases God. A truly surrendered vessel, powered by the Lord, will be able to do great things for the Master. To do this learn to **Depend:** "Lo I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Matt. 28:20. I pray this study will aquaint you with the powerful principles, that when followed will be guaranteed to make your life a lasting success. Remember ONLY ONE LIFE TWILL SOON BE PAST, ONLY WHAT'S DONE FOR CHRIST WILL LAST!